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REVIEWS

Exercise Book in Spanish. A Drill and Exercise Book on the Subjunctive, Idioms, Pronouns, and Irregular Verbs. By Lawrence A. Wilkins and Hymen Alpern. Globe Book Company, New York, 1921. 88 pp.

The authors have provided in this *Exercise Book* a very useful and convenient manual for purposes of drill on the subjects mentioned in the subtitle. The treatment of irregular verbs and idioms is quite satisfactory, and that of the subjunctive is almost so; but that of pronouns (among which are included certain adjectives) seems to the present reviewer inadequate. Relative, interrogative, and indefinite pronouns are not included, and possessives and demonstratives are not well represented. Personal pronouns are of sufficiently frequent use to be treated satisfactorily in general exercises. The subjunctive naturally receives treatment in the irregular verb drills, but the special section given to the subjunctive would be more valuable if the uses were classified.

The chief excellence of the book lies in the sections on verbs and idioms, which comprise about nine-tenths of the drill material in the book. The plan of these sections is excellent; nevertheless, some teachers would prefer not to have the verb forms before the pupils when the book is being used in class, but rather in an appendix. Also, it might be of some advantage, for use with younger students, to have the complete conjugation given, or at least a synopsis, all tenses that include any irregular forms being given in full. It is true that the book was prepared "primarily for the upper grades," but it seems to the writer that it will be found most useful in the classes that have just completed the elementary grammar, and have need of an intensive review of the subjects presented in the *Exercise Book*.

For use in classes of the grade just mentioned, the book needs, very badly, a complete vocabulary. Moreover, to make the present glossary complete, *traer* should be included, with these idiomatic uses: *traer arrastrado*, to bore; *traer en bocas*, to slander; and perhaps *traer consigo*, to carry along with oneself. Other idioms not listed under their verbs are: *cerrar con llave*, to lock; *dar la lección*, to recite; *rezar con*, to concern; and *venir bien*, to become, to suit.

It seems rather strange that lists of verb forms "which are irregular in any respect" (in the words of the preface) should omit the imperfect indicative of *ser*, *ir*, and *ver*, as is done in this book. *Sentí* and *sentiste* should not be included among the irregular forms of *sentir*. The past participle of *oír* is given (*oido*), but *oímos* is not. The regular imperative *vale* should also be given for *valer* to avoid the inference that *val* is the one imperative form.

On page 32, the reflexive object *te* has been omitted after the dash in sentence 10. Sentence 9 in section C, page 60, is doubtless meant to be a question, but the interrogation mark is lacking. Other misprints that have been noted are these: *supe* for *supo*, page 35; *traduczo* for *traduzco*, page 42; *taigáis* for *traigáis*, page 44; *distinga* for *distingan*, page 66; *conoczan* for *conozcan*, page 74; and *grunir* for *gruñir*, page 80 (capitals are accented elsewhere).